THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The crop sowing season for the year 2004-05 has just commenced and the production of oilseeds during Kharif season depends upon good monsoon. A production target of 262 lakh tonnes of oilseeds has been fixed for the current fiscal year. The production of vegetable oils depends upon the production of oilseeds in the country. Based on the oilseeds production target, the vegetable oils production during 2004-05 is expected to be around 88.00 lakh tonnes as compared to estimated production of 79.96 lakh tonnes during last year.

(c) and (d) It is too early to forecast the good production of soyabean in the country at this stage, as the monsoon has not been favourable so far in the major soyabean growing areas of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

Drought in Maharashtra

1040. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of persistent drought situation in several districts of Maharashtra, the Maharashtra Government has requested for alloacation of funds for relief and mitigation measures;

(b) whether other drought-hit States like Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh have also made similar demands; and

(c) if so, the details of the drought-hit districts, indicating the population thereof and the relief and mitigation funds sought by each State during 2002-03 and 2003-04 and the extent of such aid granted by Central Government.

*THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Uttaranchal had submitted memoranda seeking Central assistance in the wake of drought of 2003-04, no memorandum for Central assistance was submitted by the Government of Rajasthan for allocations from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

(c) A number of State Governments reported drought situation of varying magnitude during 2002-03 and 2003-04. State-wise details of number of districts reported by the respective State Governments as drought affected, assistance sought and provided from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), for drought of 2002-03 and 2003-04, are indicated in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise number of districts declared as drought affected, assistance sought and provided from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), for droughts of 2002-03 and 2003-04

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	State	Drought of 2002-03			Drought of 2003-04		
		No. of Districts declared as drought effected	Demand from NCCF	Release From NCCF	No. of Districts declared as drought affected	Demand from NCCF **	Release from NCCF (So far)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22	1860.00	123.51	21	859.88	50.58
2.	Chhattisgarh	16	880.66	127.51	—	—	—
3.	Gujarat	14	895.34	—	—	—	—
4.	Haryana	19	1895.98	—	—	—	—
5.	Himachal Pradesh	12	155.86	14.35	—	—	—
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	#	1623.98	—	—	—	—
7.	Jharkhand	22	1467.25	—	15	—	—
8.	Karnataka	24	1562.85	207.65	25	1881.55	298.16
9.	Kerala	11	1035.07	—	14	1359.03	—
10.	Madhya Pradesh	33	819.62	171.68	—	—	—
11.	Maharashtra	33	1730.61	20.00	11	1715.00	242.79
12.	Orissa	30	871.40	5.29	—	—	—
13.	Punjab	17	3529.44	—	—	—	—
14.	Rajasthan	32	7519.76	889.61	3	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
*5.	Tamil Nadu	28	1545.76	332.09	29	2283.73	173.35
16.	Uttaranchal	13	401.81	—	8	411.87	*
17.	Uttar Pradesh	70	7539.79	310.06	—	—	—

**initial demand.

#State Government of Jammu & Kashmir has not formally declared the drought affected areas.

*High Level Committee in its meeting held on 14.7.2004, approved Rs. 3.24 crores, subject to adjustment of balance in Calamity Relief Fund of the State, as determined by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Dubey Committee Report

1041. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Debey Committee submitted its recommendations on the case of Endosulfan in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Dubey Committee Report was based on the analysis of Indian Institute of Bio-Technology and Toxicology (IIBT);

(d) whether it is a fact that the Lab Report of the IIBT revealed existence of Endosulfan residues in the blood sample of children in the affected areas; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that this finding is not mentioned in the report submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Dubey Committee made the following recommendations:—

(1) There is no link established between use of Endosulfan in Plantation Corporation of Kerala (PCK) plantations and health problems reported in Padre village.

(2) In consideration of the recommendations given by various other committees, the Committee recommended that aerial spraying of pesticides may not be allowed at all in any situations including in PCK plantations to ensure full safety.